

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
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NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02
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P R 291330Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6075
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FOR S/AR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PLOS, NO
SUBJECT: SEABED MINING FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

1. BERLINE AND KATZ MET WITH LOS MINISTER JENS EVENSEN
TODAY (JUNE 29), RECEIVED HIS REACTION TO AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S
RECENT LETTER AND MADE PRESENTATION COVERING US VIEWS ON
EVENSEN'S FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS PROPOSALS. EVENSEN LISTENED
CLOSELY TO PRESENTATION AND WAS GENERALLY RECEPTIVE BUT ASKED
FOR TIME TO STUDY PAPER WE HANDED TO HIM. AT HIS SUGGESTION
WE WILL MEET AGAIN TOMORROW FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.

2. EVENSEN IS IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH VIEWS IN AMBASSADOR
RICHARDSON'S RECENT LETTER ON WORK AT THE RESUMED SEVENTH
SESSION. HE SAID HE THOUGHT IN NEGOTIATING GROUP ONE THAT
USEFUL COMPROMISES HAD BEEN REACHED ON ISSUES REQUIRING ONLY
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SOME EMBELLISHMENT. BERLIND SAID THAT US AGREED NEGOTIATING
GROUP ONE ISSUES ARE BEST LEFT FOR THE MOMENT AND CAN BE
RETURNED TO AT A LATER SESSION. HE ADDED THAT MORE
THAN EMBELLISHMENTS WILL BE NEEDED IN SOME CASES AND IT
IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE MAKE CLEAR BEFORE THE AUGUST SESSION
THAT WE HAVE ONLY ACHIEVED NEGOTIATING TEXTS, NOT COMPROMISES
ON SOME ISSUES. EVENSEN SAID IN HIS VIEW THE FINANCIAL

ARRANGEMENTS QUESTION IS THE MOST CRUCIAL AS THIS IS WHERE THE SERIOUS DIVERGENCIES ARE BETWEEN THE G-77 AND THE INDUSTRIAL STATES. EVENSEN PRAISED THE NEGOTIATING GROUP TWO BEHAVIOR OF THE US AND THE SOVIETS, BUT WAS VERY CRITICAL OF THE CONDUCT OF THE EC REPRESENTATIVES (ESPECIALLY THOSE FROM INDUSTRY WHOM HE CHARACTERIZED AS INSULTING AND ABRASIVE).

3. EVENSEN SUGGESTED THAT HE MEET WITH US REPRESENTATIVES ON THE SUBJECT OF FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS IN NEW YORK PRIOR TO RESUMED SEVENTH SESSION: WE PROPOSED BECAUSE OF TECHNICAL NATURE OF DISCUSSION IT MIGHT BE DESIREABLE TO TAKE TIME TO MEET WITH NYHART AND REVIEW THE MIT MODEL IN BOSTON. HE AGREED ENTHUSIASTICALLY AND WE HAVE SAID WE WOULD TRY TO SCHEDULE A MEETING FOR AUGUST 16 IF NYHART IS AVAILABLE. WE PROMISED TO CONFIRM ARRANGEMENTS WITH EVENSEN NEXT WEEK.

4. IN THE COURSE OF CONVERSATION, EVENSEN MENTIONED THAT HE HAD A COPY OF AN AIDE MEMOIRE GIVEN BY THE CANADIANS TO THE SOVIETS ON THE MARGIN ISSUE. HE ALSO MENTIONED AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND HAD MADE SIMILAR FORMAL APPROACHES. BERLIND SAID THE US HAD MADE A LESS FORMAL BUT NONETHELESS HIGH LEVEL APPROACH. EVENSEN SAID HE ALSO PLANNED TO MAKE AN INFORMAL APPROACH AFTER THE AALCC MEETING IN NEW DELHI TO WHICH HE HAS BEEN INVITED. ON THE QUESTION OF THE SOVIET POSITION ON THE HIGH SEAS STATUS OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE, CASTANEDA INFORMED EVENSEN IN GENEVA HE BELIEVED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT CHANGES IN ARTICLE 56 WOULD SATISFY THE SOVIETS. EVENSEN DID NOT KNOW WHAT SPECIFIC FIX CASTANEDA HAD IN MIND.

5. EVENSEN INTENDS TO GO TO THE AALCC MEETING AS HE REGARDS THIS AS VERY IMPORTANT. HE DOES NOT KNOW EHO ELSE WILL ATTEND BUT NOTES THAT AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON IS LISTED AS A PARTICIPANT.

6. COMMENT: RE PARA FIVE, WE SHOULD GIVE URGENT CONSIDERATION TO THE NATURE AND LEVEL OF US PARTICIPATION IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND THE CONTINENTAL SHELF WILL BE HIGH ON THE LIST OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND TO THE NEED TO COUNTERACT THE PRESENCE OF THE SOVIETS, THE INDIANS AND OTHERS. ALSO, SUGGEST NYHART BE CONTACTED ABOUT HIS AVAILABILITY ON AUGUST 16.
LERNER

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